



## State of Utah

### Department of Natural Resources

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April 14, 2005

TO: Susan White, Mining Program Coordinator *SW*  
FROM: Paul Baker, Reclamation Biologist *PB*  
SUBJECT: Mine Plan Amendment, Diamond K Gypsum, DKG Quarry,  
M/015/041, Emery County, Utah

On April 13, 2005, the Division received an amendment from Diamond K proposing to eliminate the requirement for them to regrade overburden over the disturbed area. Instead, they would leave the overburden near the edges of the area they mine and cover the entire area with one foot of soil. They would then rip the area to a depth of two feet.

Although Diamond K's motivation for this change is to reduce their reclamation bond, I am hopeful it will also improve their chances for revegetation success. Under the current plan, they replace about two feet of shale-derived overburden and cover this with about one foot of shale-derived soil. The resulting surface is rough but has very little rock. With this change, they would be placing the soil directly over unmineable gypsum then rip the area two feet deep. This should bring some of the remaining gypsum to or near the surface where it can help mitigate sodium effects and also provide some rock coverage.

I recommend that the Division approve the change and am attaching to this memo an approval letter for your signature. I will e-mail information about this amendment to the Bureau of Land Management and seek their concurrence.

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